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UNITED STATES-CHINA MILITARY RELATIONS, 1979-1985: ANALYSIS AND CHRONOLOGY

This is a Department of Defense Intelligence Document prepared under an interagency agreement for the Eastern Division, Directorate for Research, Defense Intelligence Agency

Analyst:

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PREFACE

This summary and chronology updates United States-China Military Relations, 1979-1985: Analysis and Chronology (ICOD: 30 September 1985) and consists of exchanges of military and military-related delegations that occurred between China and the United States in 1985. The dates, leader, and itinerary of the delegations accompany a brief analysis of each visit. The data, current as of 2 January 1986, were obtained primarily from Chinese media reports. Military visits are defined as exchanges between officials of the US Department of Defense and the Chinese Ministry of National Defense, and between members of the two countries' armed forces. Military-related visits are defined as exchanges between high-ranking US and Chinese Government leaders including officials of ministerial or cabinet rank whose visits may have had military or strategic significance.

CONTENTS

	E.
SUMMARY GLOSSARY CHRONOLOGY	·4 >
TABLE	
United States-China Military and Military-Related Exchanges: 1985	v <u>i</u>

SUMMARY

Since 1980, the United States has been willing to assist China in enhancing its military capabilities in contacts with the United States as a means of modernizing its defense. While stressing that it will rely on its own resources, China considers the United States an important source for its military modernization. In Of the 23 exchanges, 11 were military and 12 were military-related (see selected areas on a case-by-case basis, and China, especially in the last 2 years has expanded its military .985, the United States and China exchanged 23 military and military-related delegations, the most in any table). These exchanges show the convergence of China's interest in military modernization and US willingsingle year since normalization. ness to aid that effort.

The former exchanges included and a visit to the United States by the Commander of the Chinese Navy. Most of the military modernization-The 11 military exchanges of 1985 were either dialogs between the highest-ranking uniformed members of visits to China by the Chairman of the US Joint Chiefs of Staff and the Chief of Staff of the US Air Force, oriented exchanges took place in the areas of professional military education, military training, logistics, and defense mapping. The remaining military modernization-oriented exchanges were geared toward weapons Throughout the year, delegations conducted negotiations for the sale of US weapons and military technology for China's ground, naval, and air forces. In 1985, China purchased five marine gas turbine engines for two yet-to-be-built LUDA Class destroyers, and through the Foreign Military Sales Program, the United States offered to sell China plans and equipment for a munitions factory to produce 155-mm artillery ammunition. Negotiations continued for the sale of other defensive naval equipment and possible the two countries' armed forces or military modernization-oriented tours. US assistance for modernizing China's fighter aircraft. technology acquisition.

While China sought to acquire US assistance for its military modernization in 1985, it could not come to terms with the United States over a ceremonial port call by US Navy ships. Plans for the ship visit, originally scheduled for May, became unsettled in April when China said it had received assurances that US Navy ships visiting China would not be nuclear armed. The United States denied that it save such assur-A month of subsequent negotiations failed to resolve the issue, and the visit was postponed. The cancellaances -- reiterating the US policy of neither confirming nor denying whether US ships carry nuclear weapons. tion of this visit was also due to China's concern for appearing to be militarily aligned with the United States in view of its professed "independent foreign policy," and for its image as a leader in the Third World and the Non-Aligned Movement. The most significant high-level military-related exchanges in 1985 were Chinese President Li Xiannian's July visit to the United States, the fourth meeting between President Reagan and Premier Zhao Ziyang during the 40th anniversary session of the United Nations General Assembly in October, a meeting between US

Fore	(Hong Kong)	international institute	minister, ministry	national New York Times	operations	president	secretary State Science & Technology Commission	Taiwan Relations Act (1979)
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administration . ambassador assistant	bureau	Chinese Communist Party	commandant commission	committee Chief of Naval Operations Coordinating Comnittee for	Multilateral Export Controls corporation		deputy	director Department of Defense
adm amb asst	bur	CCP	cmdt cmen	cate CNO CoCom	corp	CPLA CPLA	dep	dir DoD

United States-China Military and Military-Related Exchanges: 1985

HILITARY VISITS	 	
Defense Minister/Secretary	1	•
Defense Vice Min/Asst Sec	1	1
Armed Forces Chief of Staff	н	•
Service Branch Chief of Staff	-	-
Military Orientation	7	М
Weapons Inspection/Acquisition	-	-
		1
HILITARY-RELATED VISITS	E)
Head of Government*	ı	2**
Vice Head of Government	7	ı
Minister/Cabinet Member/Ambassador	н	7
Vice Minister	-	•
Other Military-Related	-	ī
		1
TOTALS	F	
Military Visits	9	ĸ
Military-Related Visits	₩.	ĸ
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Key: T = Visits from the United States to China F = Visits from China to the United States

- In China, the President is head of state and the Premier is head of government. In the United States, the President is considered both head of government and head of state.
- ** * Includes a meeting between President Reagan and Premier Zhao Ziyang at the United Nations.

SOURCE	NYT, 13 Jan 85, p.A12; Hashington 2084, 15 Jan 85, p.A11; FBIS/China, 14 Jan 85, pp.B1-2; FBIS/China, 15 Jan 85, p.B1; FBIS/China, 16 Jan 85, p.B1; FBIS/China, 18 Jan 85, p.B1; FBIS/China, 23 Jan 85, p.B1;	Ta Kung Pao (Bong), 31 Jan 85, P.4; FEER, 7 Feb 85, P.8; Peking Informers (Hong Kong), 16 Feb 85,	FBIS/China, 26 Feb 85, p.Bl; NYT, 15 Mar 85, p.A3.
COMMENTS	Armed Forces to visit China since the establishment of Armed Forces to visit China since the establishment of diplomatic relations. Vessey holds 3 days of talks with his counterpart, CPLA Chief of the General Staff Yang Deshi. The two Officers focus discussions on furthering friendly contacts between the two countries armed forces. The US Embassy in Beijing says the visit is a "soldier-to-soldier" visit and does not include discussions of arms sales or military technology transfers. Vessey tells Yang that US-China military exchanges are "designed to promote peace and understanding, and threaten no third party." Vessey also says that military exchanges must be integrated with military technology cooperation. Yang, who accepts an invitation to visit the United States at a date yet to be determined, tells Vessey that some "difficulties and obstacles" stand in the way of the development of Sino-US relations and that these problems "should be treated seriously." Premier Zhao Ziyang tells Vessey he hopes the US-China relations in Pres Reagan's second term. Min of Natl US-China relations in Beijing and a tour of the CPLA Military Academy, Vessey and his delegation tour Shenyang, Hangzhou, Shanghal, and Guangzhou where they view Chinese ground, naval, and air force units.	Paisley arrives in Beijing for 12 days of talks with CPLA officials to continue negotiations on the possible sale of defensive naval weapons and marine gas turbine engines to China. Paisley and his delegation meet with Min of Nati Defense Thang Alping. [In Aug 85, China purchased five General Electric Co. LM2500 marine gas turbine engines.]	Wolfowitz, in China for a "working visit," has a "friendly talk" with Chinese Poreign Minister Wu Xuegian and exchanges "views on international and bilateral issues of common concern" with Vice Foreign Minister Shu Qizhen. According to the Associated Press, the talks center around hostilities in Kampuchea and along the Sino-Vietnamese border; Wolfowitz asks China to increase its aid to Kampuchean resistance fighters.
ITINERARY	Beijing, Shenyang, Rangzhou, Shanghai, Guangzhou	Beijing	Beijing
NAMB/POSITION	Gen. John W. Vessey Chan, Joint Chiefs of Staff	Melvyn Palaley Asst Sec of the Navy for Research, Engineering, and Systems	Paul Wolfowitz Asst Sec of State for East Asian and Pacific Affairs
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COUNTRY	ន	នព	SO
DATE	01/12/85	01/27/85	02/24/85

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mill exchanges beineen China and the United States: 1985	COMMENTS	Armacost holds 3 days of talks which the Chinese describe as "friendly, earnest and helpful to the enhancement of mutual understanding" " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " "	Yao Yilin, Poreign Minister Wu Xuegian, and Vice Premier Hinister Ibu Qizhen. In addition to exchanging views on bilateral relations, the two sides, according to the Chinese Foreign Ministry, discuss South Asia, the Middle East, Southeast Asia and Central America, as well as the Present state of US-Soviet and Sino-Soviet relations. Armacost says that during his talks, there was "a considerable focus on East-West issues and our respective ties with the Soviet Union in light of recent developments there" and that the full of relations. Armacost's visit comes days after the funeral of power of Mikhail Gorbachev.	Hummel and Chinese Vice Foreign Minister Zhu Qizhen engage in negotiations to decide whether US Navy ships will pay a ceremonial port call at Shanghai as scheduled. Talks have been ongoing since CCP General Secretary Hu Yaobang said on 10 Apr that the United States agreed not to include nuclear negotiations had been conducted by the two countries! Reference establishments. US policy is not to disclose whether any US Navy vessel carries nuclear weapons. The State Dept China. [On 13 May the State Dept announced a postponment in the proposed port call by US Navy ships to Shanghai.] Ship Fy visits to China remain under consideration, and both sides me continue to discuss the issue the include discuss the issue the consideration.	MG Smith leads a 30-member delegation from the National Defense University (NDU) on a tour of the CPLA Military Academy. The delegation consists of faculty and students of the Armed Forces. The delegation is received by Dep Cmdt shang Lin and is briefed on the Academy's organization and CPLA Military Academy. In Apr 79 then-NDU Pres LTC Robert and Vice Min of Natl Defense Xiao Ke led a delegation to China. CPLA Military Academy Cmdt us in Oct 80.	South China Morning Post (Hong Kong) reports discussions between a 21-member US Air Force delegation and Chinese Air Force officials concerning US assistance for modernizing China's F8 fighter aircraft. [The F8, China's latest indigenously designed and built fighter, was first observed
	ITINERARY	Beijing		Beijing	Beijing	Beijing
	NAME/POSITION	T Michael Armacost Under Sec of State for Political Affairs		Arthur Bummel Ambassador to China	MG Perry M. Smith Cadt, National War College	Unknown unknown position, US Air Porce
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	COUNTRY	ດຂ	!	20	80	ន្ត
	DATE	03/17/85		^	••	05/02/85 (

	SOURCE		FBIS/China, 7 Jun 85, p.Bl.	CSM, 18 Jun 85, p.2.	FBIS/China, 28 Jun 85, p. B2; Mashington Rost, 29 Jun 85, p. A12.	<u>Defense</u> <u>Week</u> (Wash., DC), 6 Aug 85,	FBIS/China, 23 Jul 85, pp. 81-2; FBIS/China, 24 Jul 85,
HILITARY AND HILITARY-RELATED EXCHANGES BETWEEN CHINA AND THE UNITED STATES: 1985	COMMENTS	by the US military during Under Sec of Defense William Perry's Oct 80 trip to China.] Representatives of the two countries' air forces reportedly discuss upgrading the F8 With the APG-69 radar, manufactured by Emerson Electric.	Olan, accompanied by Chinese Amb to the United States Han Xu, leads a Chinese disarmament delegation on a 5-day visit at the invitation of the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency [ACDA]. Olan exchanges views on disarmament with Renneth Adelman, Dir, ACDA. The visit reciprocates Adelman's Jul 84 visit to China	Linhard leads a 6-member delegation from the Office of the Special Asst to the Pres for Natl Security Affairs for 3 days of briefings on the proposed Strategic Defense Initiative (SDI), or "Star Wars" space weapons research. China has criticized the SDI proposal as a new field for superpower military confrontation, an escalation of the arms race, and an obstaria to arms.	Amb Kennedy holds 4 days of talks with Vice Premier Li Peng and responsible officials of the SSTC aimed at resolving differences over the dormant bilateral agreement on cooperation in peaceful uses of nuclear energy. The agreement, initialed during Pres Reagan's Apr 84 visit to China, had not been sent to the US Congress for final approval after more than I year, because it lacks a written pledge on nonproliferation. The United States is concerned that China might be assisting Pakistan's nuclear weapons program.] Xinhua reports Kennedy and SSTC officials had a cooperation. At the conclusion of his talks in Beljing, Kennedy says "substantial progress" has been made toward us official reportedly says that full agreement with China on a nonproliferation guarantee could be reached by Chinese Fres Li Xiannian's Jul 85 visit to the mittale.	Xin leads a CPLA Air Force training delegation on a 2-week tour of US Air Force training bases.	Li's 10-day state visit, the first US visit for a Chinese head of state, reciprocates Pres Ronald Reagan's Apr 84 trip to China. During the visit agreements are signed in four areas: cooperation in peaceful uses of nuclear energy (initialed during Reagan's trip to China), educational and
mil Itary–rei	ITINERARY		New York, Washing- ton DC	Beijing	Beijing	Unknown	Niagara Falis, Washing- ton DC, Chicago,
HILITARY AND	NAME/POSITION		Qian Jiadong Chinese Amb to the UN Cmte on Disarmament (Geneva)	Robert Linhard Acting Sr Dir, Defense Programs & Arms Control, Ofc of the Special Asst to the Pres for National Security Affairs	Richard T. Kennedy Amb-at-Large; Special Advisor to the Secretary of State for Nonproliferation and Nuclear Energy Affairs	Xin Dianfeng Dep COS for Training, PLA Air Force	Li Xiannian Pres, PRC
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	COUNTRY		China	SD	ន	China	China
	DATE	20/ 50/ 50	SB /50 /50	06/19/85	06/25/85	07/13/85	01/23/85

SOURCE	pp. 81-9; FBIS/China, 25 Jul 85, p. 82.	Information Provided by the US Army Command and General Staff College.	"Trip Report: Escort of the PRC Ammunition Quality Assurance Team, 25 August-7 September 1985," 15 Oct 85	cen.) Information provided by
COMMENTS	cultural exchanges, and fisheries. During talks with Reagan, in notes that Talwan remains the "main snag" to improved bilateral relations. Li's meetings with Secretary of State George Shultx on international issues are described as "friendly and candid." He also meets with former Secretaries of State Henry Kissinger and Alexander Haig. Li meets with Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger and Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Gen. John Vessey for "friendly and frank exchanges of views" which are further described as "significant." Their discussions include the issue of US arms sales to China. Vice Premier Li Peng, who accompanied Pres Li, holds talks with Vice Premier Li Peng, who accompanied Secretary John Herrington, tours numerous nuclear power Plants, the Hoover Dam, Nellis AFB, facilities of the Ford Propulsion Laboratory.	Bu leads a CPLA delegation to the first of two scheduled bilateral military training seminars. The 12-day session focuses on combined arms training with individual, unit level, and specialized combined arms training of infantry, artillery, armor, and air force elements through briefings and observing exercises. The CPLA delegation observes alrborne exercises at the US Army Infantry School, and Ft. Bragg, and inspects the facilities and observes exercises at the US Army National Training Center at Ft. Irwin. The bilateral seminar is a result of discussions held during the 1984 exchange of military training delegations. The second seminar will be held in China in 1986.	Zhong leads a 5-member ammunition quality assurance delegation from the CPLA General Logistics Dept on a 2-week tour of six US Army ammunition and logistics facilities, depots, laboratories, and proving grounds. The delegation tours and receives briefings at the US Army Defense Ammunition Center & School and the Savanna Army Depot (Savanna, IL), Letterkenny Army Depot (Chambersburg, PA), Jefferson Proving Ground and Picatinny Arsenal (Madison, 1N), and Tocele Army Depot (Tocele, UT). [In Sep 85, the United States offered to sell fuses, primers, detonators, and the plans and equipment for a 155-mm artillery shell factory through the Poreign Military Sales Program.]	China's Natl Bureau of Surveying and Mapping (NBSM) hosts a DMA delegation for a 14-day official tour of various
ITINERARY	Los Angeles, Ronolulu	Ft. Benning (Ga.), Ft. Bragg (N.C.), Ft. Irwin (Calif.), San Fran-	Savanna IL, Chambers- burg PA, New York City, Hadison IN, Tooele UT	Guangzhou, Wuhan,
NAME/POSITION		Hu Changfa Dep Dir, Tng Dept, CPLA General Staff Dept	Zhong Minghua Dep Chief, Ammunition Div, Ordnance Dept, CPLA General Logistics Dept	Lawrence F. Ayers Dep Dir for Management
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COUNTRY		China	China	ns
DATE			08/25/85	09/16/85

SOURCE	the US Dept of State, of of Cooperative SeT Programs.	FBIS/China, 3 Oct 85, P.Al.	FBIS/China, 7 Oct 85, p.Bl; FBIS/China, 16 Oct 85, P.BS; <u>China</u> Daily (Beijing), 7 Oct 85, p.3; Ta Kung Pao (Hong Kong), 10	P.4. FBIS/China, 15 Oct 85, PP.BI-8; FBIS/China, FBI
COMMENTS	surveying and mapping facilities and institutes. [Ayers led a similiar DMA delegation to China in Dec 80.] The delegation meets with officials of the Military Bureau of Surveying and Mapping (MBSM) to negotiate an annex to the protocol on surveying and mapping signed in Apr 85 by the US-China Joint Cmsn on Scientific and Technical Cooperation. The annex will provide for cooperative programs between the DMA and the NBSM.	While attending the 40th session of the United Nations General Assembly, Wu meets with Sec of State George Shultz. During their meeting Wu and Shultz "recalled the development of Sino-US relations in recent years and exchanged views on international issues of common concern." China's Permanent Representative to the United Nations Li Luye and China's Ambassador to the United States Ban Xu, along with US Under Sec of State for Political Affairs Michael Armacost and Asst Sec of State for East Asian and Pacific Affairs Paul	Gen. Gabriel, the first US Air Porce Chief of Staff to visit China, holds talks with his counterpart CPLA Air Porce Cdr Wang Hai. Gabriel also meets with Min of Natl. Defense Zhang Aiping for an exchange of views on the "furtherance of relations" between the Chinese and US Air Porces. During his 10-day trip, Gabriel tours CPLA Air Porce facilities in Beljing, Shenyang, Anshan, Xi'an, Bangzhou, and Shanghai. In Shanghai, CPLA Air Porce COS Ma Zhanmin receives Gabriel and his delegation.	Bush makes a 6-day official visit to Chins, his second trip as Vice Pres. He holds 3 days of talks in Beijing and in Chengdu opens the 4th US consulate in China. Throughout his trip, Chinese leaders reiterate that the Talvan question continues to pose the "major obstacle" to the growth of Sino-US relations and is the "principle problem" between the two countries. Premier Shao Siyang tells Bush there are obstacles which "prevent the proper and full tapping of the potentials" of Sino-US relations. Deng Xiaoping says that problems in Sino-US relations have been solved to a certain question is settled, "Sino-US relations will flow smoothly in every field." Chinese Min of Natl Defense Shang Aiping,
ITINERARY	Guilin, Xi'an, Zhengzhou, Beijing	United Nations	Beijing, Shenyang, Anshan, Xi'an, Hangzhou, Shanghai	Beljing, Chengdu, Guangzhou, Shenzhen
NAME/POSITION	f Technology, Defense Mapping Agency	Wu Xuegian Min of Foreign Affairs; State Councillor	Gen. Charles Gabriel Chief of Staff, US Air Force	George Bush Vice Pres
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COUNTRY			ន	ន
. DATE		10/02/85	10/04/85	10/13/85

SOURCE		FBIS/China, 31 Oct 85, p.81; FBIS/China, 4 Nov 85, p.81.	FBIS/China, 18 Nov 85, P.BI; FBIS/China, 25 Nov 85, P.BI; SWB; Reading), 15 Nov 85, P.AI/2; Defense Week (Wash., DC), 12 Nov 85,	FBIS/China, 25 Nov 85,
COMMENTS	Dep Chief of the CPLA General Staff He Qizong, CPLA Air Force Cdr Wang Hal, CPLA Navy Dep Cdr Li Jing, and vice Min, Natl Defense Science, Technology, and Industry Cmsn Wu Embassy. Bush also has separate meetings with Vice Premiers Li Peng and Wan Li, CCP General Sec Hu Yaobang, and Natl Premier S Congress Chan Peng Shen. Premier Shao makes an 8-day trip to attend celebrations marking the 40th anniversary of the United Nations and meets briefly with Pres Ronald Reagan on 23 Oct (their fourth of government attending the commemorative session of the United Nations, Thao tells Reagan he hopes for "further United Nations, Thao tells Reagan he hopes for "further United Nations, Ihao makes a four-country tour of South home, he meets with CINC, US Pacific Command Adm. Ronald Hayes.	In his capacity as Vice Pres, BIISS, Xu makes a 2-week visit to the United States at invitation of the Stanford University Center for Intl Security & Arms Control. In Washington, DC, on 1 Nov, Xu [concurrently a Dep Chief of the CPLA General Staff] meets with Sec of Defense Caspar Xu also meets with Asst to the Pres for Natl Security Affairs Robert HcParlane, and Asst Sec of State for East discussions are not provided.	4 8 % Ha.	Wolfowitz briefs Chinese leaders on the recently concluded Geneva summit meeting (19-21 Nov) between US Pres Ronald
ITINERARY	United	Stanford, Washing- ton DC	Washing- ton DC, New Orleans, Rey West, Orlando, San Diego, Honolulu	Beijing
NAME/POSITION	2hao Ziyang Premier, State Council	Xu Xin Vice Pres, Beijing Inst for Intl Strategic Studies; Dep Chief, CPLA General Staff Dept	Liu Huaging Cdr, CLPA Navy	Paul Wolfowitz Asst Sec of State for
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COUNTRY		_	China	T T
DATE	10/21/85	58/06/30/85	11/13/85	11/23/85

	SOURCE	p. Bl.	FEER, 2 Jan 86, pp.11-12.
	COMMENTS	Reagan and CPSU General Sec Mikhall Gorbachev. Wolfowitz has a "friendly conversation" with Chinese Foreign Minister Wu Xuegian and also meets with Vice Poreign Minister Zhu Qizhen.	Xie leads an NDSTIC delegation to Washington, DC in late Nov 85 to negotiate the sale of US-made avionics for China's F8 aircraft. According to US Dep Asst Sec of Defense for Intl Security Affairs James Kelly, the deal is expected to be concluded soon, and Congress will be notified of the sale in Feb 86. The sale reportedly will provide 50 Chinese F8 aircraft with integrated navigational and fire control systems that will give the aircraft all-weather capability. McDonnell-Douglas, Boeing, Grumman, and Northrop will provide the components, costing approximately \$500 million. Xie's delegation reportedly was preceeded by a technical team from the CPLA Air Force and was later joined by other officials from the NDSTIC including Shang Pin, who previously led an NDSTIC delegation to the US in Feb 84.
٠	ITINERARY		Washing- ton DC
	NAME/POSITION	East Asian and Pacific Affairs	Xie Guang Dep Dir, Natl Defense Science, Technology, & Industry Cmsn
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